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CONSUMER TIME

#### AGAIN --- A CALL TO FARMS

NBC

DATE: April 13, 1946

ORIGIN: WRC TIME: 12:15-12:30 PM - EST

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CASH REGISTER RINGS THICE... MONEY IN TILL TO APR 16 1946 SOUND:

JOHN: It's CONSUMER TIME! 2.

SOUND: CASH REGISTER...CLOSE DRAWER

4. ANNOR: During the next fifteen minutes, the National Broadcasting Company and its affiliated independent stations make their facilities available for the presentation of CONSUMER, by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

MUSIC: BRIEFLY ... AS KIND OF HILD FANFARE 5.

JOHN: Our story today ... Victory Farm Volunteers.

MUSIC: BRIEFLY...FADE BEHIND.

8. FREYMAN: Victory Farm Volunteers...boys and girls from fourteen to seventeen years old...are needed again this summer to help out on farms...in many parts of the country.

JOHN: 9. They're needed to help with the crops...with the cultivating and weeding and harvesting ... and with general farm work !

10. FREYMAN: Youngsters who did such a splendid job during the war years, helping produce the largest crops in this country is history... are being called for again by farmers still badly in need of help.

JOHN: 11. So, today ... Mrs. Freyman, we're going to tell the story of these . husky and hard-working young people...

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12. FREYMAN: And we're also going to tell, Johnny, how to be a Victory Farm Volunteer, if you don't already know.

13. JOHN: I think we should begin our story...with a lotter, Mrs. Freyman

...a letter written home by a young farm volunteer...who went

out from the city to spend his summer vacation last year...as

a very hard-working, and very happy...farmhand.

### 14. MUSIC: SWEAKS IN BEHIND

15. JACK: (READING) Well...I finally got to the farm. The man has about 20 cows, 300 chickens, and a pig. He does most of the milking. We have milking machines, and I learned how to run them. I will never forget farming for the rest of my life. It's swell. I'll tell you a few things that I do. I get up at 5:30 in the morning, to milk the cows. It's real interesting the way those milking machines work. I carry milk to the milk house...and feed the cows grain. After I get done milking the cows, I go over and feed the chickens. I like that a lot. Then we go to breakfast.

# 16. MUSIC: UP AND OUT

- 17. JACK: Gosh, Mrs. Halley! Hotcakes for breakfast again
- 18. MRS. HALLEY: (WITH GOOD CHEER) Well, my goodness Jack, if you like 'em that much, we'll have 'em every morning.
- 19. JACK: And gee whiz...biscuits.
- 20. HALLEY: Why sure, Jack...you act like you'd never had breakfast before.
- 21. JACK: Not like this one!
- 22. HALLEY: Well...we got a lot to do today, son. Did you get the chickens fed?
- 23. JACK: I sure did. They were as hungry as I am. What're we going to do today, Mr. Halley?

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24. HALLEY: We've got to get out there and bale that hay, Jack. And when we get through balin', we've got to get over to Jones' place and bale for him.

25. BOV: That's swell! I sure like working on the baler.

#### 26. MUSIC: LOW BEHIND

27. JACK: (READING) We have a pick-up baler, Mom, and I work on it. That' a good job. Whenever the baler breaks down, we fix it. I could tell you every part of a baler, but that would take a long time.

After we get done with our own hay, we go out and bale hay for other people. I get to know a lot of farmers that way. He lets me drive the tractor too. This afternoon he showed me how to drive, and how to get around corners good.

# 28. INSIC: OUT

- 29. SOUND: TRACTOR IDLING
- 30. JACK: (CALLING OVER) What's the matter, Mr. Halley...you look worried about something. We got this tractor fixed fine.
- 31. HALLEY: Tisn't the machine, boy. I'm worried about that durn cow.
- 32. JACK: I don't see any cow.
- 33. HALLEY: No...I mean the one that's missing. I just plain don't know what could have happened to her...
- 34. JACK: Gosh, that's right. She's still gone, isn't she?
- 35. HALLEY: Yep. And I've looked just about everywhere for her. The fence is 0.K., too...all around the pasture. I don't see how she could have got out of that fence.
- 36. JACK: I'll go look around again, Mr. Halley...if you want me to.
- 37. HALLEY: Well, we got to get this job done first, boy...but late this afternoon, you can get one of the horses and go out on another search. Don't think you'll have much luck.
- 38. JACK: Well anyhow...I can try.

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39. SOUND: TRACTOR CROSSFADES INTO MUSIC

40. MUSIC: BRIEF BRIDGE...THEN DOWN BEHIND

41. JACK:

(READING) With the Halleys on the farm, I learned what it was like to rely on my own judgement. One of my decisions saved, or rather helped save the life of that cow, which had strayed away from the rest of the herd. We'd spend days searching for her, but all in vain. She couldn't be found.

The day Mr. Halley told me I could, I went down to the barn, and took out one of the horses, put a bit in his mouth...(I don't use a saddle, Mom)...and I went out on a search for that cow.

I rode around until it was nearly dark, but no luck. Then, as I headed for home, I rode through some trees at the edge of the swamp...and all of a sudden...

42. SOUND: HORSES HOOFS

43. JACK: Hey! Whoa, there, Molly... Whoa, now...

44. SOUND: HORSES HOOFS COLLING TO A STOP

45. JACK:

Well, did you ever. There's that old eow. Caught in the quicksand! And only her head sticking out. Hold steady, Molly, (JUMPS DOWN)...I'm going to go over there and see if she's dead. (BREATH PAUSE) Hey, bossy...S'ooo boss... Gosh she's alive. I can see her eyes move. Her eyes are open. What can I do? I can't get a cow out of a quicksand by myself. Molly! We're going to run and get help. And Molly...(MOUNTS HORSE) You're gonna gallop like you've never galloped before. Giddap!

46. SOUND: GALLOPING INTO HUSIC

47. MUSIC: BRIEFLY...CROSSFADE INTO...

48. SOUND: GALLOPING, AND SLOWING DOWN

49. JACK: (CALLING) Hey...Mr. Halley...Mr. Halley!

50. MRS. HALLEY: He isn't here, sonny...he's gone on over to Jones's!

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- 51. JACK: Giddap, Molly
- 52. MRS. HALLEY: What's the matter, Jack?
- 53. JACK: (SHOUTING OFF) The cow that was lost...she'd down below the pasture...caught in the quicksand. I'm going to get Mr. Haley... (FADING AS GALLOPING OFF)

## 54. SOUND: GALLOPING INTO MUSIC

## 55. MUSIC: BRIEFLY...HOLD UNDER.

Oguietly Reading) I found Mr. Halley over at Jones', and we lost no time getting back to rescue that cow. It was a tough job, but we pulled her out all right. (PAUSE) You know, Mom, living on a farm sure teaches you to think for yourself. Now if I hadn't thought fast...that old cow would have died sure.

#### 57. MUSIC: BRIDGE

- Well, Johnny...Jack did learn a lot during his summer vacation on the farm. He worked hard, too. He developed a lot of muscle, and got a deep, dark tan. And what's also very important...he was helping produce the country's much-needed food. Let's hear more of his letter....
- Another machine I work with is the corn harvester. I sit on the back and watch that nothing gets clogged up, or any of the chains get tangled and come off. It's a complicated machine but I know quite a little about it. Next year I expect I will learn much more. The boss said he will let me rake the hay... and even cut it down. You know, Nom, it's a funny thing, but at first Nr. Halley acted like he didn't think I could do a thing. I heard him and his wife talking one night...just after I came...
- 60. MRS. HALLEY: Oh, he'll be all right, Bill. Just give him a chance...

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- 61. HALLEY: (GRUMBLING) Here I asked for some help...real help. And they send me that skinny little city boy...who don't know a cow from a horse...
  - 62. MRS. HALLEY: Now, Bill, don't fret yourself. He looks mighty willing and cheerful to me.
  - 63. HALLEY: I just haven't any time to teach a kindergarten, that's all....
  - 64. MRS. HALLEY: Look how quick he learned to help on the baler. Look how he got up at 5:30 this morning...and ran out to feed the chickens and the stock. I tell you, Bill...a boy who's willing...and happy on his job...is worth a whole parcel of experienced hands...who're lazy.
  - 65. HALLEY: Well, I hope you're right, but frankly... I doubt it.
  - 66. MUSIC: BRIDGE AND FADE UNDER...
  - 67. JACK:

    After I heard that conversation, I made up my mind then and there I was going to show Mr. Halley that I could do all he wanted me to, and more besides. And well, I told you how it's all come out...and all the things I'm doing now. I don't mind saying I was might proud when Mr. Halley up and said the other day....
  - 68. HALLEY: Frankly, son, I don't know what I'd have done without you.

    Hope you're planning to come back again next year.
  - 69. MRS. HALLEY: And I hope you'll find time to write us a letter now and then.

    70. JACK: Yes, Mom, there's a lot a city boy can learn about the country

    ...and about farm folks. But when you come right down to it,

    there isn't any real difference between us. I've learned how

    the farmer lives...and I think the way they live is like a

    paradise. They work hard all day, and they know how to have fun

    too. There's always plenty of food, such as steak, chicken,

    beef, and plenty of good vegetables. (MORE)

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JACK CONT'D:

In the summer they mostly eat chicken and in the autumn they eat mostly pork and ham, and in the winter a few calves are killed. And you know, Mom, I enjoy myself plenty. I go dancing every Saturday night, and during the week I go roller skating, to the movies, and bowling. It's swell to be only a couple of miles from town. I know everybody in Middleburg. And I know when I go back next year, I won't feel like a stranger...

## 71. MUSIC: BRIDGE

72. FREYMAN: "When I go back next year"! That's what Jack's planning to do...

and that's what the many hundreds of boys and girls who helped

out as Victory Farm Volunteers during the war years...are

planning to do...again this summer.

73. JOHN: And it's a fine thing, because this food is needed more than ever...all over the world.

74. FREYMAN: Indeed it is, Johnny.

75. JOHN: Well...there's one more thing in Jack's letter, Mrs. Freyman...

that I thought was very good...and many of the kids have said something like it, in the letters they've written in to VFV supervisors.

76. FREYMAN: Oh...that was the part where he said...

77. JACK: I think I learned more on the farm in four months...than I'll ever learn in school in four years.

78. FREYMAN: And he also wrote:

79. JACK: I sure wish that every American could see the wonderful job the farmers have done during the war, and are still doing. I hope next year, that every young American boy and girl would spend their summer on a farm. If they want to know what it's like... send them to me! I can tell them a lot! I don't think I ever learned so much in such a short time. (MORE)

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JACK CONT'D:

Pardon the spelling and writing. (FADING) But I am writing this letter in bed...while I'm supposed to be asleep.

# 80. MUSIC: CROSSFADE...HOLD FOR BRIEF BRIDGE

gl. FREYMAN:

Well, that's a letter from one boy...a city boy, too, who found out that being a Victory Farm Volunteer...was a great experience.

82. JOHN:

And a useful one too, Mrs. Freyman. I liked the letter from a mother of one of these youngsters. She wrote to a VFV supervisor...he's the man who goes around to the various farms, and sees that the kids are getting along all right...she said: My son Arnold has just returned from his second summer spent

83. MA:

My son Arnold has just returned from his second summer spent working on a farm. I find him in splendid health and spirit.

He's actually gained ten pounds. And he has a new understanding now of the role played by agriculture and dairy farming in our national life. We feel that the knowledge he's gained...about the amount of work which goes behind that bottle of milk on our door step...is an important addition to his education...(FADING) Thank you for your interest and for watching out for my boy...

#### 84. MUSIC:

85. JOHN: And now, Mrs. Freyman...let's sum up our story...about the country's Victory Farm Volunteers...

86. FREYMAN: First of all...how old do you have to be a VFV?

87. JOHN: From 14 through 17...and of course, both boys and girls can join...but for heavy work, farmers do prefer boys.

88. FREYMAN: Will they be needed everywhere in the country?

89. JOHN: Not everywhere...but in a good many places.

90. FREYMAN: How do you find out whether you're needed?

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- 91. JOHN: Listen for announcements on the radio...or watch for them in your local paper.
- 92. FREYMAN: If you want to find out more about it... where do you go?
- 93. JOHN: Your county agent knows all about it...and your school principal.

  In fact, many kids are notified that they're needed...through
  their own schools.
- 94. FREYMAN: Oh, I see. Well now what about this...do you have to live on the farm when you're a Victory Farm Volunteer?
- 95. JOHN: No...some farmers want what they call "live-ins"...kids who live there with the family. Others need youngsters to come out from towns and cities, by the day. These are called "day-hauls".
- 96. FREYMAN: And I suppose they're needed just at times when crops are ready to harvest?
- 97. JOHN: That's about it.
- 98. FREYMAN: How do these day-hauls get to the farms where they're going to work?
- 99. JOHN: Transportation is usually arranged. Trucks will pick them up, at a specified place.
- 100. FREYMAN: Now what about camps for workers, Johnny?
- 101. JOHN: There are camps in some parts of the country. You can find out
  about them locally...
- 102. FREYMAN: Can't we sort of sum up what youngsters are expected to do when they work on a farm?
- 103. JOHN: Well...briefly...the kids who live on the farm milk cows, drive horses, care for livestock, operate farm machinery, help with the chores, and do other jobs.
- 104. FREYMAN: And the "day-hauls...what do they do?

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105. JOHN:

They generally help harvest fruits and vegetables. And here's a point I think we should make, Mrs. Freyman. Farm homes are checked and approved by the Extension Service before the youngsters are placed there. A real effort is being made...to fit these young workers into the kind of families and the kind of work to which they're best suited.

106. FREYMAN:

And you can find out when, and where...and if you're needed...

by watching for the announcement in your paper, or on the radio

...or by asking your county agent, or school principal.

#### 107. MUSIC:

108. JOHN: Our story today, was taken from an actual letter...written by a Victory Farm Volunteer.

109. FREYMAN: And now, Johnny ... about next week's CONSUMER TIME broadcast ...

110. JOHN: Next week, Mrs. Freyman. . . it's all about my wool suit. . .

111. FREYMAN: And my woolen things too. We're going to tell how to care for wool suits and coats and blankets and rugs...now that summer's on the way.

112. JOHN: We'll also have some last-minute news on the fabric situation ...

113. FREYMAN: So...be sure to be with us then...for our all-wood edition of...

114. SOUND: CASH REGISTER...

115. ANNCR: CONSUMER TIME!

116. SOUND: CASH REGISTER...CLOSE DRAWER.

117. ANNCR: CONSUMER TIME, written by Christine Kempton, is presented by the
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stations. It comes to you from Washington, D. C.

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